GE Power Systems

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October 8, 2001

The Honorable Spencer Abraham
Secretary of Energy
U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Avenue, S.W. 7A-257
Washington, D.C. 20585

Subject: Yucca Mountain Preliminary Site Suitability Recommendation

Dear Secretary Abraham:

I am writing to you in support of a recommendation for development of the Yucca Mountain site in Nevada as a spent nuclear fuel and high-level nuclear waste repository. GE Power Systems is one of the world's leading suppliers of power generation technology, energy services and management systems, including the supply of power plants, services and fuel to the nuclear power industry.

The Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982 establishes a detailed process to determine the suitability of the Yucca Mountain site. With the completion of the Yucca Mountain Science and Engineering Report and the other reports supporting the Yucca Mountain Preliminary Site Suitability Evaluation, there now exists a comprehensive preliminary assessment of the site. The current record provides a solid basis for concluding that a Yucca Mountain repository would meet radiation protection standards issued by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and regulations proposed by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission. The opportunity for public review and comment on this preliminary assessment will ensure a full record of the issues for consideration by President Bush and Congress.

Establishment of a safe repository is an important element of our national energy policy. Based on the record and the process for public comment, GE Power Systems strongly supports a recommendation that the Yucca Mountain site be developed.

Very truly yours,

John A. Rice

cc: The Honorable Robert G. Card, Under Secretary of Energy
       Mr. Lake H. Barrett, Acting Director, DOE OCRWM
       Dr. J. Russell Dyer, Manager, DOE Yucca Mountain Project
       Ms. Carol Hanlon, USDOE, Yucca Mountain Site Characterization Office